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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/452,843	05/30/1995	ALESANDRO SETTE	014137-00802	5698

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EXAMINER

DIBRINO, MARIANNE NMN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1644

DATE MAILED: 06/02/2003

52

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/452,843

Applicant(s)

SETTE ET AL.

Examiner

DiBrino Marianne

Art Unit

1644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7/01/02, 3/12/02, 2/27/03 and 11/18/02.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 176-233 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 176-233 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 1644

DETAILED ACTION

1. The request filed on 2/13/02 (Paper No. 37) for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 08/452,843 is acceptable and a CPA has been established. An action on the CPA follows.

2. Applicants' amendments filed 7/01/02 and 3/12/02 (Papers No. 43 and 38, respectively) and Applicant's responses filed 2/27/03 and 11/18/02 (Papers No. 51 and 47, respectively) are acknowledged and have been entered.

Claims 176-233 are pending.

3. Since Applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 178, 179, 187-190, 202 and 204-233 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.142(b) and M.P.E.P. § 821.03.

Newly submitted claims 178, 179, 187-190, 202, 204-233 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: Claims 179, 187-190, 210-221 are methods comprising using a nucleic acid, belonging to non-elected Group II. Claims 178, 202, 204-209 and 222-233 are drawn to non-elected peptide species of elected Group I.

4. In addition, this application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention wherein the peptide is endogenously processed from a poly or oligo peptide:

- A) less than 15 amino acid residues in length comprising the said peptide
- B) a fusion protein comprising said peptide
- C) a homopolymer of said peptide
- D) a heteropolymer of said peptide

These peptides are distinct because they have different structures and different physico-chemical properties.

Applicant is required to elect a specific species, i.e., one of A-D above.

Art Unit: 1644

5. In addition, this application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention wherein the evaluating step is for the ability to induce an HLA-B7 restricted CTL response:

- A) in vivo
- B) in vitro

These species are distinct because the in vitro and in vivo methods require different ingredients, process steps and endpoints. For example, the contacting of CTL with the complex in vitro requires provision of, culture of and testing of CTL in vitro, whereas the contacting of CTL with the complex in vivo only requires administration of the peptide or the peptide/HLA complex.

Applicant is required to elect a specific species, i.e., one of A or B above.

6. Where applicable, Applicant is further required to elect one ultimately disclosed species of method wherein the method comprises:

- A) a diagnostic method
- B) a prognostic method
- C) administering a vaccine

These species are distinct because different steps are required for diagnosing vs prognosticating vs administering a vaccine as a treatment.

Applicant is required to elect a specific species, i.e., one of A-C above.

7. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

8. Applicant is advised that a response to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

9. Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species.
M.P.E.P. 809.02(a).

Art Unit: 1644

10. Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 of the other invention.

11. Applicant is advised that the response to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed.

12. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently-filed petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(h).

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Marianne DiBrino whose telephone number is 703-308-0061. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Chan, can be reached on (703) 308-3973. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.



Marianne DiBrino, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner
Group 1640
Technology Center 1600
March 19, 2003



CHRISTINA CHAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600